



Mayor’s Monthly Message

April 2020

Information & Resources:	Federal information & income supports	www.canada.ca/coronavirus
	Provincial information (including gathering restrictions, protections for renters) & income supports	www.alberta.ca/covid19
	Definition of essential services (Alberta)	https://www.alberta.ca/essential-services.aspx
	Lethbridge Region Economic Recovery Task Force	www.chooselethbridge.ca/recovery
	Village of Stirling information and news	http://stirling.ca/archives/category/news
	Mayor’s Video Message #3 – Saturday, April 18	https://youtu.be/w-S4C3DAS6w

The COVID-19 public health emergency along with continued restrictions on gatherings and business operations likely remains top of mind for Stirling residents. I would like to again extend my sincere appreciation for everyone’s ongoing compliance with requirements outlined by Alberta’s Chief Medical Officer of Health. I have been attending weekly conference calls with members of the provincial cabinet and other officials where it was indicated they would release further forecast information and a potential timeline for the partial easing of restrictions before the end of April. We should know more in the next few weeks. Council will need to make decision at our May meetings with respect to summer events and the potential reopening of facilities.

Council approved revisions at third and final reading to the Fire Bylaw this month. As I noted last month, the amendments align the appointment of the Fire Chief as part of the responsibilities of the CAO rather than Council which is consistent with provincial law. In addition, new provisions for permits for open fires in “large lot residential” or “agricultural” designated lots have been added under certain limited conditions.

I was excited to see the Theodore Brandley Library begin curbside pickup of library materials this past week. I appreciate the innovative approach to restore some level of service to our community. You can find instructions for how the program will work and details on how to order your hold materials on the Village website. Council also approved third and final reading of a Municipal Library Board Bylaw. The Bylaw formally authorizes the creation of a Library Board to manage the operations of the Library. Although Stirling has long had a volunteer library board for this purpose, we are required to formally establish the board through a bylaw.



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The Inter-Municipal Development Plan or IDP Bylaw between the Village of Stirling and the County of Warner received second reading after the completion of public hearing. You can download a copy of the proposed IDP by clicking this link: <https://www.orrsc.com/county-of-warner-and-village-of-stirling-idp-draft-february-2020/>. The Bylaw will stay at this stage until the County of Warner is able to conduct their own public hearing for their matching version of the bylaw.

A new revised version of the Municipal Procedures Bylaw has received second reading. A municipal compliance review conducted by Alberta Municipal Affairs last year recommended that our previous procedural bylaw be updated to better reflect changes to Alberta's Municipal Government Act. The bylaw sets out the procedures for the operation of council and committee meetings. One key change to the new bylaw is to include provisions that Councillors may attend meetings using electronic means and do not necessarily need to be physically present to be considered in attendance.



This month also saw a significant show of support for the teachers and staff of the Stirling School. Many parents, students and the Fire Department organized a parade in front of the school much to the delight of teachers who lined the road in a physically distanced way to watch the procession. Our teachers are true

professionals who have quickly adapted to delivering instruction and support on-line with basically no advance notice. Council appreciates the efforts of everyone at the Stirling School to not only ensure a quality education for our students continues uninterrupted but for their adaptability in embracing the challenge created by COVID-19.

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